



TO: TIMOTHY O. HORNE
Acting Administrator (A)

FROM: MICHAEL DOWNING
Regulatory Reform Officer and White House Liaison
Office of the Administrator (A)

DATE: May 24, 2017

SUBJECT: Regulatory Reform Task Force Progress Report

Background

Executive Order 13777, "Enforcing the Regulatory Reform Agenda," dated February 24, 2017, set forth the requirements for each agency to appoint a Regulatory Reform Officer and establish a Regulatory Reform Task Force charged with the implementation of regulatory reform initiatives and policies to ensure that agencies effectively carry out regulatory reforms, consistent with applicable law.

By memo dated April 26, 2017, you appointed Michael Downing as GSA's Regulatory Reform Officer and established GSA's Regulatory Reform Task Force including appointment of Giancarlo Brizzi (Regulatory Policy Officer) as well as Jeffrey Koses (Senior Procurement Executive). You also appointed representatives from the Federal Acquisition Service (Chris Hamm) and the Public Building Service (Liliana DelBonifro), to consider the operational side of the regulations issued by GSA.

Status of Project and Action Plan

The regulatory reform task force has established a schedule for bi-weekly meetings and has met on three occasions since inception. In this time, the task force discussed the requirements of the Executive Order and established a plan for action. This plan will enable it to evaluate existing regulations and make recommendations regarding their repeal, replacement or modification.

As part of this plan, the task force members have identified subject matter experts all across the agency, to establish working groups or subcommittees to ascertain regulations or policies that are ripe for reform; prepare information and reports including background about the regulations identified (whether established by EO, statute, etc.);

provide justification and analysis in support of the recommendation (repeal, replace or modify). Several working groups within GSA's services have already been created and are aligned by policy areas. These policy area working groups have also begun identifying members from the federal community who can assist in their reform efforts.

The task force has established a communication strategy. It will ask for suggestions from the public and from GSA employees regarding regulations that should be considered by the task force for reform. To obtain public comments, the task force will issue Federal Register Notices for each set of regulations issued by GSA (i.e. FTR, FMR/FPMR, and Acquisition). The task force is issuing a fourth notice, to focus on regulations surrounding the leasing of real property. To obtain comments from GSA employees, the task force will work closely with the Office of Strategic Communications to develop and implement an appropriate outreach strategy.

The four federal register notices will be published on or about May 30, 2017. Comments on each notice are due back to GSA within 60 days of publication. Internal comments will be on a similar schedule.

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Next Steps

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In addition, the task force members are working on an internal GSA process to collect, organize and prioritize the comments received in response to the Federal Register Notices. Task force members are also identifying key groups and stakeholders to invite to participate in the Federal Register Notice process as well as the informal meetings the task force will sponsor. Finally, the task force plans to reach out to GSA's Acting Regional Administrators to invite them to

attend its June 13, 2017 meeting to give them an update on the reform efforts and seek their input on engaging community stakeholders.

To date no briefing or report schedule has been set, but the task force remains ready to update your office as needed.

The task force welcomes your feedback on its progress and looks forward to continue working with you on this initiative.

Cc: Giancarlo Brizzi
Jeffrey Koses
Liliana DelBonifro
Chris Hamm

Attachments: Federal Register Notices